Remarks

Applicants have carefully reviewed the office action and address all the rejections in this response. Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment describes the invention more clearly and overcomes the objections and rejections in the office action.

Interview with the Examiner

On April 23, 2005, applicants had a telephone interview with Examiner Munoz. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies shown during the interview. No agreement was reached between the Applicants and the Examiner as a result of the interview.

Claim Amendments

All the improper multiple dependent claims are amended to depend from a single independent claim. This amendment overcomes the objections of the Examiner regarding those claims.

Claims 1, 2, and 16 are amended to recite the features of the instant invention more clearly. For example, Claim 1 is amended to recite two more steps as follows.

(g) calculating the interference contribution of finger j in finger i; and

(i) subtracting, for path i, the interference contribution of the at least one other finger (j ≠ i), from an intermediate signal.

Claim 2 is amended to recite the following additional steps:

computing an S-curve for transmission system;

storing the S-curve in an interference computation module; and

calculating the interference contribution of finger j in finger i by multiplying the total weight interfering path is subject to in finger i by the S-curve at estimated correct location.

Claim 16 is amended to recite the following elements in the interference computation device:

a device adapted to calculate interference contribution of finger j in finger i; and

a device adapted to subtract, for path i, interference contribution of the at least one other finger (j ≠ i) from an intermediate signal,

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Rejection of claims 1-3 and 16-18 based under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Aris

Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 16-18 as being anticipated by Aris under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). The claims as amended overcome the rejections in that Aris does not teach or suggest the steps in claim 1, which are recited as follows.

(g) calculating the interference contribution of finger j in finger i; and

(i) subtracting, for path i, the interference contribution of the at least one other finger (j ≠ i), from an intermediate signal.

Likewise, Aris does not teach or suggest using the S-curve to compute the interference contribution in a finger i by another finger j (j ≠ i). Therefore Claim 2 is believed to be patentable over Aris. Moreover, claim 2 is believed to be patentable because it is a dependent claim dependent on a claim 1, which is believed to be patentable.

Similarly, independent claim 16 is believed to be patentable over Aris because the interference computation device of the earlier claim 16 is explained as one including two further elements:

a device adapted to calculate interference contribution of finger j in finger i; and

a device adapted to subtract, for path i, interference contribution of the at least one other finger (j ≠ i) from an intermediate signal,
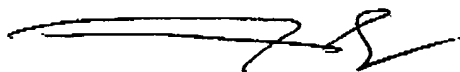
These features are not present in Aris. Therefore, the presently described invention is believed to be patentable over Aris.

As to the remaining claims, they are dependent claims depending from independent claims 1 and 16. Because Applicants believe that the independent claims 1 and 16 are patentable, the dependent claims are also believed to be patentable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to examine further and issue an early notice of allowance. No fee is due with this response.
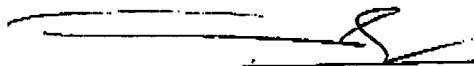
Respectfully submitted,

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I certify that on April 24, 2005, the foregoing document was fax-filed by faxing the same to the USPTO facsimile number (703) 872-9306.

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